

**2014-2015  
School Improvement Council**

Virginia Campbell	Parent
Warren Galbreath	Parent/SIC Chair
Amber Harrison	Teacher
Virgil Highsmith	Asst. Principal
Janice Jordan	Teacher
Sandy King	Asst. Principal
Nivia Miranda	Family Liaison
Robin Padgett	Community Member
Becky Putnam	Parent
Ashley Robertson	Principal
Audrey Whitaker	Teacher/Parent



The School District of Oconee County does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or handicap in admission to, access to, or employment in its programs and activities. Earnestine Williams, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, Marge Bright, Director of Special Services and 504/ADA coordinator, and Ginger Hopkins, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction have been designated to handle inquiries or complaints regarding any discrimination matter. Their offices are located at 414 S. Pine Street, Walhalla, SC 29691. They may be contacted at 864.886.4400 if you have questions.

**Vision Statement**

We envision a welcoming school that provides an atmosphere in which students are motivated to learn. With the support of the community, instruction is enhanced to meet the academic and developmental needs of each student. James M. Brown Elementary School empowers children to positively impact the world in which they live.



**Belief Statements**

We believe that...

- ◆ Education is a lifelong process.
- ◆ Education will provide opportunities for students to learn to communicate effectively, solve problems, think critically and display their creativity.
- ◆ Students will utilize resources that will prepare them for our evolving technological society.
- ◆ All students will learn and achieve academic success within a secure environment.
- ◆ Students are the center of the education process and will accept the responsibility to be actively engaged in the learning process.
- ◆ Parents and guardians will accept the responsibility to actively support the learning process.
- ◆ The educational process will be valued and supported by the local community.
- ◆ All individuals will be treated with dignity and respect.

**James M. Brown  
Elementary School**

**2014-2015  
Report to the People**



**MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of James M. Brown Elementary School is to develop life-long learners who are respectful, responsible, and honest citizens by providing meaningful educational experiences for all students.

**Ashley S. Robertson, Principal  
Sandy King, Asst. Principal for Instruction  
Virgil Highsmith, Asst. Principal**

James M. Brown Elementary  
225 Coffee Road  
Walhalla, SC 29691

864-886-4470  
864-886-4471 (fax)

<http://www.oconee.k12.sc.us/JamesBrown.cfm>

Dear Parents:

As a requirement of Act 135, schools are required to develop a comprehensive five year plan which conveys how the school plans to provide appropriate academic services to all students. This report is distributed to all James M. Brown Elementary students, parents/guardians, the district office, and the Oconee County Board of Trustees. In addition, copies can be found in the main office and media center of James M. Brown Elementary. This report summarizes our goals at JMB while also highlighting the accomplishments of our school and students.

If you have questions about the information summarized here, please call Ashley S. Robertson, Principal, at 886-4470 or email at [arobertson@oconee.k12.sc.us](mailto:arobertson@oconee.k12.sc.us).



The cat from Dr. Seuss' *The Cat in the Hat* makes annual visits to our classrooms to read books.

## JMB Curricular Goals for 2014-2015

James M. Brown Elementary continues to review, revise, and improve our school plan in order to strive for excellence. Specifically for the 2014-2015 school year, we have implemented the following:

**Literacy in all classrooms** – We continue to emphasize literacy in all classrooms. We will provide ongoing professional development on strategies and resources on programs such as Fountas and Pinnell, The Daily Five, The Café Book, High Progress Literacy strategies, guided reading, and small group instruction.

**Using data to drive instruction** – We continue to analyze and utilize data from school-wide, district-wide, and state-wide assessments such as PASS, MAP, and other various classroom and school level programs.

**Implementing Technology** - We continue to utilize technology as an instructional tool by purchasing iPads, netbooks, Chromebooks, laptops, student desktops, and other various technology items for classrooms.

**Common Core State Standards**—We will implement Common Core State Standards into our instructional program.

**Interventions and Enrichment**—We will continue to provide an intervention teacher at each grade level to work with students in the area of reading and math. In addition, reading and math enrichment teachers will be used to meet the needs of our gifted and talented students in 3rd—5th grade.

**STEM Instruction**—We provide specialized instruction in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics through a STEM lab in grades 3, 4, and 5.

## JMB Facts and Information

Grades: PreK-5th grade  
Enrollment: 668 students  
Average Pupil to Teacher Ratio: 19 to 1  
Students Served Free/Reduced Lunch: 82%  
Average Daily Attendance: 94%  
2014 Report Card Absolute Rating: Average  
2014 Report Card Improvement Rating: Good

### Ethnicity Breakdown of JMB

White	63%
Hispanic/Latino	32%
Two or More races	3%
Black or African American	1%
Native Hawaiian	less than 1%
American Indian	less than 1%
Asian	less than 1%

### **JMB School and Student Celebrations**

2011-2012 Title 1 Reward School of Performance  
2012-2013 Title 1 Reward School of Performance  
2013-2014 Battle of the Books—1st place  
2013-2014 Math Madness Top 10 finisher  
2013-2014 Student placed 2nd in state wrestling  
2013-2014 Future Chef winner from JMB  
2013-2014 PalmettoPride state art contest winner  
2013-2014 Title 1 Reward School of Performance  
2014-2015 Math Madness Top 10 finisher  
2014-2015 Student placed 2nd in district essay contest  
2014-2015 Student participants in Future Chef district competition  
2014-2015 Two students were state recreation basketball winners

